

**ELL Task Force Parent Engagement Subcommittee**  
**12.08.2017**  
**10:00 AM**

**Minutes**

**Present: Ahmed Noor, Priya Tahiliani, Karla Estrada, Chi Nguyen, Angelina Camacho, Cheng Imm Tan, Katrina Brink**

Discussion with Karla Jenkins on Family Engagement  
Parent and SSC:

- Parents don't get a sense to represent the whole parent body
- SSC is suppose to report back to the SPC
  - If there is a parent on the SSC to the SPC, then that parent can report
  - If there is no parent, then a report should be generated to be delivered
  - Recommendation: mechanisms should be put in place for parents to report
    - How can parents understand and connect more to each other through different committees
  - DELLAC have a seat on SSC?
  - Can schools keep track of % of ELL parents who attend SSC or SPC
- When Schools hold elections for SSC or SPC:
  - OE volunteers to support or run elections for all schools during School Open House
  - Hold parent university to educate parents about communication protocols for SSC and SPC
    - Trainings for families to understand their representative roles and how to share information
    - Both meetings are subject to open meeting laws
      - OE trains families on how to operationalize sharing of minutes and information
      - OE trained School Site Council 101 workshop during Parent University
      - Infuse trainings to families
    - OE supports but isn't in charge of DELLAC, CPC, and SPEDPAC
      - These subcommittees report back to SSC and SPC
    - OE does mandatory observations of SSC and SPC
    - Can't have a fully functioning SSC if you don't have an SPC
  - Challenges:
    - Families being confident (across the board) in reporting back
      - "I'll help, but I don't want the title" - common occurrence
  - OE wants to collaborate based on recommendations and feedback
    - Greater than 2 way communication within groups
      - How to share the communication amongst a greater group
      - Some SPCs also have a great social media presence
    - Requests Schools to post on website, get translators, access interpreters
      - Use Title I dollars to support families
      - Access families within those groups
      - Looking to be thoughtful on how to support families when families feel uncomfortable in the process of engagement
- Find data on # of EL parents on SSC and/or SPC

- Confidentiality piece: families have to agree to allow their information to be shared
  - Are the SPC and SSC members representative of the school population?
  - Encourage schools to talk about SSC and SPC
- Build infrastructure for improved communication
  - Build confidence to do the work = have the right tools (ie: google folders to keep information and data. Allows for transition and institutional knowledge to be retained)
  - Highlight the Quincy and BLS as best practice?
    - Push back on data collection based on race
      - Even though we ask for race identification, families tend to not fill out
    - At every school, every elected member will fill out elected member form
  - Where can we put in clarifying language for parents to self-identify?
    - If we do it for ELs, we have to do it for Special Education, etc.
    - Could create a very long form
- Larger issue concern: Parent Engagement
  - How do we monitor EL parent engagement?
    - Allow OE and OEL to connect and clarify with Legal
  - Find mechanism to get authorization to share data

### **Family Friendly Schools**

- How to measure and use the rubric for engagement practices/BPS standards for engagement
  - Currently in BPS: 4 Schools: Otis (first school to be certified and will go through a re-cert every 3 years), Mckay, PJK, and Mozart
    - Mckay, PJK, and Mozart will be re-cert next year
  - 6 criteria will be sent out and shared: student voice, safe and welcoming environment,
    - 50% or greater return of school climate survey
    - Parent data from survey could say 1 thing, can't assume data is positive
      - Data based on a number of people, but is it the actual experience at the school
      - Need to have evidence of family friendliness
      - Internal self assessment survey for schools
    - EMK has made the list, but need to be certified
      - Site visits are included
      - Parent events, SPC, SSC visits
  - School leaders won't be subjected to re-cert if they are a new leader
    - Need to have stabilization
  - What supports are available to increase momentum for schools to take this process more seriously
    - Schools are very excited for family friendliness, but the entire process to be certified can be daunting
    - Engagement vs. participatory
      - Field trip for students was requested but focus needs to be on families
        - Dollars must support families
    - Schools will receive report with recommendations on areas of growth and strength
      - OE can provide a more in depth report on family engagement

- Simple feedback: what is your plan to organize and communicate back to families
- Break up data by category
- Final report is due on June 1, 2018
- Aggregate report can be provided after June 1
- Last meeting is in May
- Data will be reported by September 2018's meeting
- Data is deeply rooted in engagement and not participation
- Move schools from having the idea of "come to the building" but create meaningful engagement opportunities even if families can't show up
- Engagement Fellows PD
  - 2 modules: Opportunity and Engagement Gap
  - 1 module on engagement of EL families
  - 10 participants with 6 schools
    - Curley, Baldwin, Haynes, Burke, Holmes, Ellison Parks
- Cross departmental work for different trainings
  - OE presented with OEL at DELAC
  - Parent U: OEL to support family engagement
- DELLAC members to be introduced to School Committee

Colin Rose was not able to come to the meeting, so Karla Jenkins gave a description of what she knows.

- Opportunity and Achievement Gap:
  - School Committee voted for an Opportunity and Achievement Gap (OAG) policy
    - Addresses the district problem of practice:
    - Resourcing tools around cultural proficiency
      - Principals/Headmasters received training in Culturally and Linguistically Sustaining Practices (CLSP)
        - White Privilege, Bias, Culture of Race, Institutional Racism
        - Comfort in the discomfort around race and how it impacts student achievement
        - Expectation wasn't for school leaders to go back and implement immediately
        - Strategies: use 7 forms of bias to look at the bias in curriculum
      - Hayden observed more than 70 schools
        - Looking for bias in schools
        - Ideas on how to support schools
        - How to help students re-affirm their identity
      - Are there any organizational partners to share and support the work? -
        - 127 schools is a lot for 5 staff members
      - 7 CLSP sessions
    - What are the goals and metrics for Schools/school leaders/teachers/departments to measure themselves?
      - 3 year continuum/cycle/arc of learning for teachers/principals
        - Parallel training for leadership, teachers, and families

- Sessions at Parent University for CLSP for parents
    - Can we bring these trainings to SPC or CPC?
    - Can we group schools together from core networks to receive CLSP training
  - Ground leadership
    - Then bring it to schools for ILT, SSC, etc.
  - Excellence for All
  - 10 Boys and 10 Girls initiative
  - All Schools required to submit CLSP goals in the Quality School Plan
- Report from OELL Family and Parent Team
  - 6 members each with specific BPS native language specialty
    - Parent advocacy: DELLAC
      - School visits: representatives
      - Know your rights project: geared towards immigrant families
      - BPSwedream website for families to use
      - Create webinars for parents to learn about BPS systems and OEL programs
      - Technology Goes Home: Haitian families, Cape Verdean families, Vietnamese, Spanish families
      - Worked with Community Based Organization with specialized linguistic groups
      - Hosted families to learn about Kindergarten programming and invited SEI and ESL teachers to run the program
        - Done in native languages
    - Culturally awareness for schools
      - Training for Muslim students at Jackson Mann
      - Training for Somali students at Hennigan
      - Training for Boston International
      - School staff training are done through collaboration with OE
    - DELLAC has 3 conferences
    - Send DELLAC members to SSC and SPC
- January meeting will have full report